

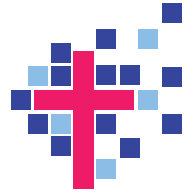
PALM SUNDAY



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
April 5, 2020

Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*



Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.



WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

PRELUDE

Jim Francis, pianist

God Loved the World ELW 323 – arr. Edward Miller

BLESSING OF THE PALMS AND OPENING PRAYER

- P Let us pray: God of all Creation, bless the palm branches that beautify our Sanctuary and help us joyfully acclaim Jesus our Lord and King. Help us daily to respond to your call to serve one another. Continually guide our communities, families, and friends by the words and actions of Jesus, your beloved Son. Guided by your Holy Spirit, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
- C who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**
- P On Palm Sunday we worship the King of kings, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Even as his entry into the Holy City bears witness, he is a king like no other. He is worthy of all glory, laud, and honor. Yet he came to Jerusalem not to ascend to an earthly throne, but to be raised up upon a cross. As we rightly join the Jerusalem crowd in shouting our praises and raising our palm branches, we are aware that his palm-paved path will lead him to Golgatha, and to the cross.
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OPENING HYMN

ELW #344

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Verses 1, 3, 4, 5

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.



LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

Zechariah 9:9-10 (NRSV)

L A reading from Zechariah.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM

Psalms 31:9-26 (NRSV)

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

- ⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I | am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.
- ¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**
- ¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors,
a dismay to | my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street | they avoid me.
- ¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;
I am as useless as a | broken pot.**
- ¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.
- ¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O Lord.
I have said, "You | are my God.**
- ¹⁵My times are | in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.
- ¹⁶**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love."**

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11 (NRSV)

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

L A reading from Philippians.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death—
 even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name
 that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11 (NRSV)

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

P The Holy Gospel as recorded in St. Matthew the 21st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,
"Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

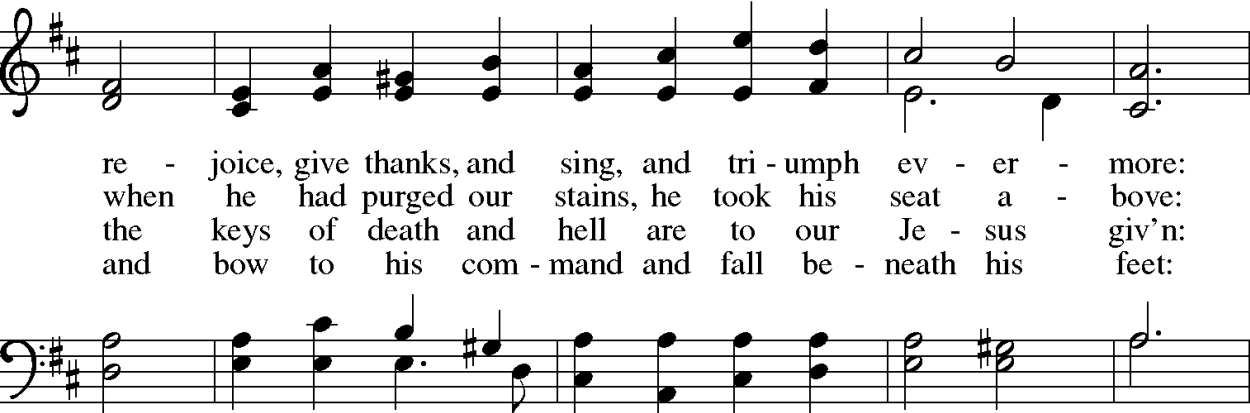
SERMON

Pastor Dave Thomas

March On!

Rejoice, for Christ is King!


1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
 2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
 4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit

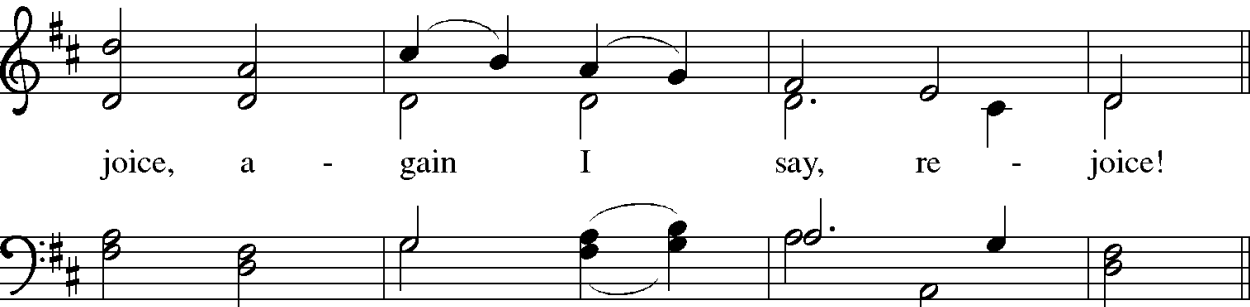


re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
 and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – Phillip Keveren

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Hear us, O God."

To which the congregation responds, "**Your mercy is great.**"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray, as our Lord taught:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

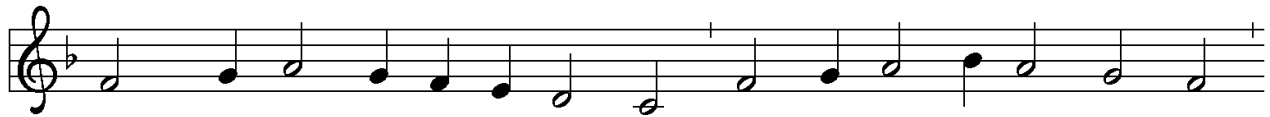
P May the peace of the Lord be with you to comfort and console you.
May you live in peace one with another and with all people.
May we be peacemakers and grace givers.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.



Praise and Thanks and Adoration



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,
2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.
through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day
Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!
in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

SENT TO SERVE

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:

C **Worship God,**
Grow in Faith,
Share the Gospel,
Serve Others,
Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!